

What's Happening at LARC Meetings

For the December meeting of the LARC we had a two for one deal going. First Phil, VE3AXL gave a talk on his latest new toy. It's a single band transceiver kit from Hans Summer of QRP Labs. It is a 5W CW transceiver with a built in WSPR beacon. It has VFO A/B capabilities, CW decoder and an Iambic keyer to mention a few goodies. The price point is \$49. If you want more info here is a hot link

<https://www.qrp-labs.com/qcx.html>

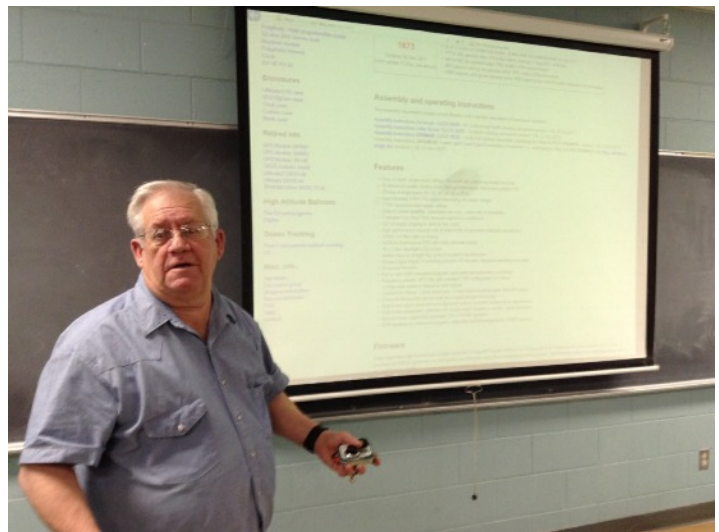
The second part of the twofer was Randy who is diligently studying for his certificate but is very much into Amateur Radio. He calls himself the gadget king and I'm starting to think it's an honest moniker. The first gadget was a HF Antenna Analyzer that covers 1 to 60 MHZ. It's a very compact unit with a screen that offers easy readability. The second gadget was a thermal imaging camera that fits on his phone. We saw a photo of his dog and he was very visible against the surrounding space. Want to know how good your fancy triple pane windows are, this is the gizmo for you. If you want any further info Randy will be at the January meeting.

For the January meeting Randy is making a return engagement to give us some pointers on how we can improve the visibility of Amateur radio here in Thunder Bay. As we all get older and there is a lot of competition for your hobby time this could be very timely. We will be back at our regular meeting place in the McIntyre building at Confederation College on Thursday, January 11 at 7:30.

As mentioned earlier if you are doing something interesting please contact a member of the executive and we can schedule you into a meeting for a demo.

Tnx 'XT

Phil, VE3AXL and the 5WCW from QRP Labs



Randy and HF antenna analyser and thermal imaging camera



**LARC Meeting: January 11, 2017,
7:30 PM, RM 214 McIntyre Building
at Confederation College**

LARC SENATE

Robert Hansen VE3RVA
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

President: Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

Vice-President: Bob Hansen
VE3RVA

Treasurer: Bill Unger VE3XT

Board Member: Mike Skillen VE3EDX

Board Member: Mark Vaillant
VA3MVR

Board Member: Brad Harris VE3MXJ

ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 214 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to hqnewsletter@gmail.com

Nets in the Thunder Bay Area

Last Monday of every Month - ARES net on VE3YQT - 7 pm
(you do not have to be an ARES member to check in)

Cook County ARES Response Team (CARRT) net at 0100Z (8 pm) on the BWARC repeater, Grand Portage repeater - 146.655 with CTCSS

Any questions on these or other nets please feel free to contact me at my e-mail: ve3mxj@rac.ca

LARC Emergency Coordinator

Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628

ARES District Emergency Coordinator

vacant

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631
VE3RRP Karl

Public Service Events

VA3TBA Chris Chadwick

Accredited Examiners

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789
flesnick@tbaytel.net
VE3VAI Lori Bedford 622 – 6386



**Like us on
Facebook**

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2

442.075 (+5 MHz) **pl 100**
144.390 APRS

VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)

Minutes for the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

Date: December 12, 2017

Secretary, Karl Hamilton VE3RRP Presiding.

Guest Speaker:

Show and Tell by membership VE3AXL demoed QCX QRP monoband transceiver \$49 USD, Randy McAllister talked about antenna experiments and the Sodial HF antenna analyzer.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Unger VE3XT

Bill Unger VE3XT moves to accept the report as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by

Chris Chadwick VA3TBA. Passed Unanimously.

Bill Unger VE3XT moves to authorize payment of club insurance of \$ 549.72

2nd: by Robert Hansen VE3RVA. Passed.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP moves to accept the previous meeting's minutes as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by Norm Bell VE3XRC. Passed.

Old Business:

Public Service (Chris Chadwick VA3TBA public events coordinator)

Past Events:

Santa Shuffle December Bob Hansen VE3RVA

Upcoming Events

Sleeping Giant Loppet Saturday March 3, 2018, Randy Gottfred VA3OJ Coordinator

10 Mile Road Race May 2018, Norm Bell VE3XRC Coordinator

Grand Marais Mail Run (Dog Race) January 6th,

Bear Grease Dog Race January 28-31 south of the border.

CANWARN John Sacek VA3JMS

No news

ARES Brad Harris VE3MXJ Thunder Bay EC

Monthly Net is on VE3YQT on the last Monday of the month, 7 pm ET.

Repeater News

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ,

Terry Stewardson VA3LU

10 meter repeater is closer to activation, hopefully by end of December.

Club Trailer:

Bob Hansen VE3RVA

Trailer is in storage for winter.

New Business

Randy McAllister talked about club renewal, ways to identify goals and how to become visible in the community.

RAC Bulletin Highlights by VE3RRP

50/50 Draw: Bob Fontaine VE3JAY

Adjournment moved by: Bill Unger VE3XT

Next Executive Meeting: January 4, 2017, 7:30 PM, RM 213

Next LARC Meeting: January 11, 2017, 7:30 PM, RM 214



Hall of Fame Member
Roland Peddle, VE6RL
(VO1BD) SK

2017 Canadian Amateur
Radio Hall of Fame Re-
cipient

The LARC extends its
condolences to Roland's
family and friends.

Jan's Links

<http://nationalpost.com/news/canada/forty-years-ago-she-pioneered-canadas-space-weather-program-now-it-might-prevent-another-stone-age>

<https://www.popsci.com/space-weather-woman>

<https://phys.org/news/2017-12-team-space-weather-method.html>

every month Jan VA3JRS scours the Internet looking for interesting links and sends them to me thanks Jan!

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

December 2017 Treasurers Report

December Balance 1, 2017 **\$1,050.57**

Income

December 15, Memberships \$105.00
December 15, 50/50 draw \$3.00

Total Income \$108.00

Expenses

December 1. Liability Insurance for LARC and Trailer \$549.72
December 31, Service Charge \$0.50

Total Expenses \$550.22

Balance December 31, 2017 \$608.35

<u>Trailer Account</u>		
	Previous Balance	\$438.86
<u>Income</u>		
		\$0.04
Interest		
Total		\$438.90
<u>Expenses</u>		
Total Expenses:		\$0.00
	Balance in Trailer Account	\$438.90

Term Account

December 01 Balance \$2,059.40
December Interest \$0.25

December 31, Balance **\$2,059.65**

**Bill Unger VE3XT
Treasurer**

Distracted Driving in Canada: An Update



Distracted driving regulations continue to be an area of interest for many Canadian Radio Amateurs. These regulations are made and enforced by provincial governments and can vary considerably from province to province and over time.

In Ontario, RAC Directors Allan Boyd, VE3AJB (Ontario North/East) and Phil McBride, VA3QR (Ontario South) have been working hard on this issue.

On December 15, 2017, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) announced that the current two-way radio exemption for “Amateur Radio operators and specified commercial, public transit, and public function drivers will be extended for a further three-years, effective January 1, 2018 until January 1, 2021.”

The update to the regulation can be found at <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r17475> <https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ontario.ca%2Flaws%2Fregulation%2Fr17475&h=ATMWwg5ziDguDnFfACYn5jt97ZW9MPfWCEc4-1wBL5VuSs4ctgNNFN3gA33FF3MBIJODKGR6EKEGVdwWg4eykwzi3DwSAjBl4K8LaFWGqUBbcxLhpriY4Oce4UqMUEH0QNWmB6VEWtx7iIaWEZhxBXwF1e1omM8EUpzcY1maKuse02m6ZSmMZUzEZ6RrISqRpLh7dpdHSoAxiVLHdZhIox9CUAnaQvFxaTaPpxtnUkcQElaW5QcF90U9AYZ5w1WYROinKkFGZwWWS8Uz_DMKu_cj-hIB4cevnjzYZS4RHg>.

While we were hoping for a permanent exemption, this decision by the MTO ensures our continued ability to operate Amateur Radio apparatus while mobile. RAC will continue to press for a permanent exemption going forward.

For more information visit our Distracted Driving webpage at: <http://wp.rac.ca/distracted-driving/> <https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwp.rac.ca%2Fdistracted-driving%2F&h=ATMRJISg5IpcJp65q-9aZpr_qAA1QvqYdpslYb0lNBe3fKMrUXpai95tjID9fgkM2CeQRzGclmOReU3oL9f-xevtRV4a96B4z1CvSahBEvFyNJ9UBXzSH55gszchUFaCyy_zx1t5i8A8GW7W71unkjtHdFhAValbbMLiMt_K5moSWV_LWlqnvU_ec8PiU3e3LbnK-LKpUODInHcHLD_7IJVfgb0EzNAzqGAAbI5qpDibU239fVQJQ7F4xqJKNJxgHM4eQMKa5WWCIIP-jXbLkdYSRjhsIxrFPlaIdVLOW>

Alan Griffin
RAC MarCom Director

Bouvet Island, 3Y0

Bill VE3XT

Just the mention of Bouvet Island, 3Y0 will quicken a true DX'ers heart rate. A dependency of Norway, Bouvet is a sub-Antarctic island in the South Atlantic. The last Bouvet activation was during the winter of 2007 – 2008. This is the second most wanted DX entity after North Korea. Once these folks hit the air if you're not sure what a pileup sounds like give a listen. It has been described as the "Most isolated island on earth" and is located about half way between the tip of South America and the tip of South Africa just north of Antarctica. It is 49.2 square km. A quick Google search suggested the City of Thunder is about 10 times that of Bouvet in square km. It's small!

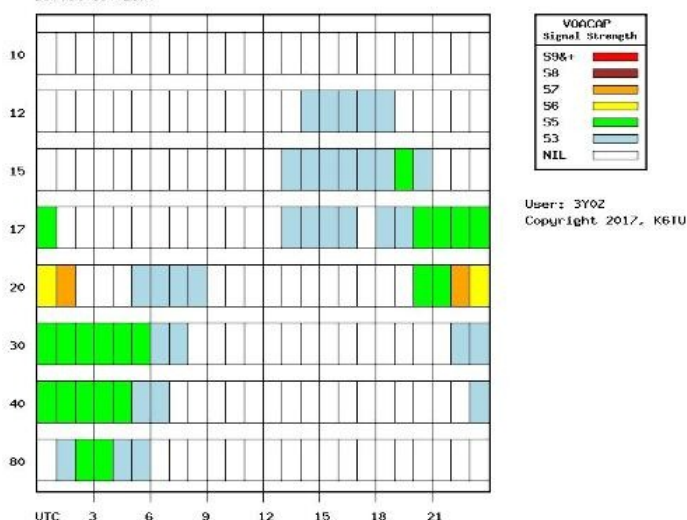


A final start date has not yet been finalized but their hoping to be on the island late January or early February. Check the web for more details. Here is the hot link <https://www.bouvetdx.org/>

The organisers have put up a propagation page where you can type in your station location and information about power and antenna's. The link is here <https://www.bouvetdx.org/propagation/>

I put in my 3W to a vertical and here are the results I got. Yep I will be busy from 2100 to 0200 UTC on 20 metres. You can call the house but don't expect an answer. I would encourage you to run your propagation prediction and give Bouvet a whirl. See you on the bands.

Bouvet to VE3XT



Mike Goldstein, VE3GFN / mgold@pathcom.com

The Little Pistol Pages

As I'm writing this, APRIL Field Day 2017 is so fresh in my mind that the weather still has only recently stopped itching. By the way, I'm now typing on one of the "Das Keyboard" mice, after seeing it described in a recent QST column (see "Consider Your Keyboard," July 2017 QST, Electronic Technology, p. 40). It's pricey but really is a cut above any I've used in the past. My typing is faster, and more accurate.

Using N3FJP Logging Software

At Field Day this past summer, I had the pleasure of operating 40-meter CW for the York Region Amateur Radio Club—a large and active club just north of Toronto. This gave me the opportunity to use N3FJP contest logging software. www.n3fjp.com/ This software has most of the features of the more-complex N1MM+ Logger, most of which I use now, but it's far easier to program the keyboard function keys, which can be

the most difficult aspect of using N1MM+. I found N3FJP to be a great little package of contest logging software, perfect as an introduction in this respect of contesting. Scott, N3FJP, gives prompt and excellent feedback to e-mail queries, and we enjoyed quite a dialogue as I played with his software before FD began.

It's also inexpensive. You can buy different modules for almost all of the contesting you work, or a package that will include most of them. The only serious problem you may encounter is connecting the PC to key your rig, even after you've configured your transceiver for PC keying.

Your success will very much depend on your PC. I first set up this software using one serial cable between my PC and the K3 transceiver, as I have done in the past with great success. My elderly HP PC, running Windows XP, gave me excellent keying. When I used the same technique at

FD with an elderly laptop running Windows 7, however, the CW was so "staccato" that we decided in the end not to use it, and we sent CW manually instead, using the software only as a logger.

The problem, which has cropped up elsewhere, is the old "timing conflict" between Windows resources and the need to send clearly keyed CW. I had never encountered this problem using my K3 with various PCs.

The solution, also described in Scott's documentation, is to use a separate keying system, such as the Winkkey, and connect its output across your bug or paddle terminals. You will want to set this up and test it in advance, since there may be an issue with COM ports and configuration, as with any software that talks to the rig. I've used a Winkkey with my Kenwood TS-590, which I could never key directly with a PC, and it worked beautifully. Do



In 2016, a group of VE3 hams went to the QTH of Josh Walker, 6Y5WJ, to operate the CO WW contest as 6Y3T. They put 9,000 contacts into the log, racking up 12.7 million points in the M2S category. (L-R) Tom Haavisto, VE3CX; Tony Osman, VE3RZ; Harry Kosterman, VASEC; and Dennis Gasparotto, VE3JAQ.

22 January/February 2018 NCJ

Gary Spence VE2GK forwarded this article printed in the National Contest Journal featuring (far right) Dennis Gasparotto VE3JAQ formerly from Thunder Bay and Tom Haavisto VE3CX (far left) Pat Pugh VA3PP also forwarded a profile article the NCJ did of Tom. Contact me if you would like to see it.



January 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 LARC Meeting at Con College McInyre Bldg 1930 hrs.	12	13	14 SKCC Week- end Sprinta- thon
15 4 States QRP Sunday Sprint	16	17 Phone Frey	18	19	20 North Ameri- can QSO Party, SSB	21
22	23	24 CW Ops CWT Mini Test	25	26 CQ 160 Me- tre Contest, CW	27 Montana QSO Party	28 Winter Field Day
29	30	31	and all on the 3 rd of February FYBO - Minnesota QSO Party - BC QSO Party			